AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of recovering from a corrupt computer system BIOS comprising the steps of:

during one boot cycle,

determining whether a BIOS of a computer system is corrupt;

continuing with a normal boot if said BIOS is not corrupt;

if said BIOS is corrupt:

initializing components in a boot block of said computer system sufficient to establish a communications connection with a recovery server;

locating said recovery server;

communicating to said recovery server by sending system information to said recovery server in a request for an uncorrupted BIOS;

in response to said request to said recovery server, downloading an uncorrupted version of said BIOS from said recovery server based on said system information; ~~and~~

programming said uncorrupted BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS storage area; and

rebooting said computer system once after determining that said BIOS is corrupt, said rebooting occurring after said programming.

2. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein one of said components is a network card.

3. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 2, wherein said computer system communicates to said recovery server over a local area network.

4. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 2, wherein said computer system communicates to said recovery server over a wide area network.

5. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 2, wherein said computer system communicates to said recovery server over the internet.

6. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein one of said components is a modem.

7. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 6, wherein said computer system communicates to said recovery server over a direct dial connection.

8. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 6, wherein said computer system communicates to said recovery server though an internet service provider.

9. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 6, wherein said computer system communicates to said recovery server over the internet.

10. (Currently amended) A method of recovering from a corrupt computer system BIOS comprising the steps of:

during one boot cycle,

determining whether a computer system BIOS is corrupt;

if said BIOS is corrupt:

receiving at a server a request for an uncorrupted version of said BIOS transmitted by a computer system with a corrupted version of said BIOS detected during startup; and

in response to said request, transmitting an uncorrupted version of said BIOS to said computer system,

wherein said computer system reboots once after determining that the BIOS is corrupt, said rebooting occurring after said computer system programs said uncorrupted version of said BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS storage area.

11. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system communicate over a local area network.

12. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system communicate over a wide area network.

13. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system communicate over the internet.

14. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 10, wherein said server and said computer system communicate through said computer system's modem.

15. (Currently amended) A method for recovering from a corrupt BIOS comprising the steps of:

during one boot cycle,

checking whether a BIOS of ~~said~~ a computer system is corrupt;

continuing with a normal boot if said BIOS is not corrupt;

if said BIOS is corrupt:

initializing components in a boot block of said computer system sufficient to establish a communications connection with a recovery server;

locating a recovery server;

communicating to said recovery server by sending system information to said recovery server in a request for an uncorrupted BIOS;

in response to said request to said recovery server, transmitting an uncorrupted version of said BIOS and a utility software from said recovery server to said computer system;

receiving said uncorrupted version of said BIOS and said utility software at said computer system; and

executing said utility software to program said uncorrupted version of said BIOS onto a BIOS storage area of said computer system,

wherein said computer system reboots once after said checking determines that said BIOS is corrupt, said rebooting occurring after said executing.

16. (Original) A method as in claim 15, wherein one of said components is a network card.

17. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 16, wherein said server and said computer system communicate over a local area network.

18. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 16, wherein said server and said computer system communicate over a wide area network.

19. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 16, wherein said server and said computer system communicate over the internet.

20. (Original) A method as in claim 15, wherein one of said components is a modem.

21. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 20, wherein said server and said computer system communicate over a direct dial connection.

22. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 20, wherein said server and said computer system communicate over an internet service provider.

23. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 20, wherein said server and said computer system communicate over the internet.

24. (Currently amended) A system for recovering from a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:

a computer system, said computer system comprising:

a processor;

a BIOS recovery program;

a BIOS storage area containing said BIOS;

a RAM;

a first communications system; and

a chipset to control the flow of data between the processor, a motherboard bus and the RAM; and

a recovery server, said recovery server comprising:

a processor;

a storage medium;

and a second communications system;

wherein said processor of said computer system, in response to detecting a corrupt version of said BIOS detected during startup and during the same boot cycle in which the corrupt version of said BIOS was detected, executes said BIOS recovery program to:

initialize in a boot block of said computer system, said chipset, RAM, and first communications system;

locate said recovery server;

communicate to said recovery server through said first and second communications systems by sending system information to said recovery server in a request for an uncorrupted BIOS;

in response to said request with said recovery server, download from said recovery server an uncorrupted version of said BIOS based on said system information;

store said uncorrupted version of said BIOS into said BIOS storage area; and

reboot said computer system, and

wherein said computer system reboots once after said detecting a corrupt version of said BIOS, said rebooting occurring after said uncorrupted version of said BIOS is stored into said BIOS storage area.

25. (Original) A system as in claim 24, wherein said first and second communications system are network cards.

26. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 25, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate over a local area network.

27. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 25, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate over a wide area network.

28. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 25, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate over the internet.

29. (Original) A system as in claim 24, wherein said first and second communications systems are modems.

30. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 29, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate though an internet service provider.

31. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 29, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate over the internet.

32. (Currently amended) A system for recovering from a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:

a computer system, said computer system comprising:

a processor,

a bus;

a BIOS recovery program,

a BIOS storage area containing said BIOS,

a RAM, and

a first communications system and a chipset to control the flow of data between the processor, the bus and the RAM;

wherein said computer system's processor, in response to detecting a corrupt version of said BIOS during startup and during the same boot cycle during which the corrupt version of said BIOS was detected, executes said BIOS recovery program to:

initialize in a boot block of said a chipset of said computer system, said RAM, and said first communications system;

locate a recovery server;

communicate to said recovery server through said first communications system by sending system information to said recovery server in a request for an uncorrupted BIOS;

in response to said request to said recovery server, download from said recovery server an uncorrupted version of said BIOS based on said system information;

store said uncorrupted BIOS into said BIOS storage area; and

reboot said computer system,

wherein said computer system reboots once after said detecting a corrupt version of said BIOS, said rebooting occurring after said uncorrupted BIOS is stored into said BIOS storage area.

33. (Original) A system as in claim 32, wherein said first communications system is a network card.

34. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 33, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate over a local area network.

35. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 33, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate over a wide area network.

36. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 33, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate over the internet.

37. (Original) A system as in claim 32, wherein said first communications system is a modem.

38. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 37, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate over an internet service provider.

39. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 37, wherein said computer system and said recovery server are adapted to communicate over the internet.

40. (Currently amended) A system for recovering from a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:

a recovery server, said recovery server comprising:

a processor;

a memory containing an uncorrupted version of a BIOS in a boot block for a computer system; and

a first communications system;

wherein said recovery server, in response to receiving a request transmitted by said computer system during the same boot cycle in which a corrupted version of said BIOS is detected, is configured to transmit said uncorrupted version of said BIOS to said computer system, and

wherein said computer system reboots once after said detecting of a corrupted version of said BIOS, said rebooting occurring after said computer system programs said uncorrupted version of said BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS storage area.

41. (Original) A system as in claim 40, wherein said first communications system is a network card.

42. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 41, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to communicate over a local area network.

43. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 41, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to communicate over a wide area network.

44. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 41, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to communicate over the internet.

45. (Original) A system as in claim 40, wherein said first communications system is a modem.

46. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 45, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to communicate though an internet service provider.

47. (Previously presented) A system as in claim 45, wherein said recovery server and said computer system are adapted to communicate over the internet.

48. (Currently amended) A system for recovering from a corrupted computer system BIOS comprising:

a computer system, said computer system comprising a BIOS and components sufficient in a boot block to enable recovery of an uncorrupted BIOS from a remote server;

wherein said computer system, in response to detecting a corrupt version of said BIOS during startup and during the same boot cycle in which the corrupt version of said BIOS was detected, is configured to operate said components to:

communicate to a remote server by sending system information to said remote server in a request for an uncorrupted BIOS,

as a result of said request with said remote server, receive an uncorrupted version of said BIOS from said remote server, and

store said uncorrupted version of said BIOS,

wherein said computer system reboots once after said detecting a corrupt version of said BIOS, said rebooting occurring after said uncorrupted version of said BIOS is stored.

49. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

if said recovery server is not located;

communicating with a conventional recovery source;

downloading an uncorrupted version of said BIOS from said conventional recovery source; and

programming said uncorrupted BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS storage area.

50. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 49, wherein said conventional recovery source is a removable disk.

51. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

if said recovery server is not located;

communicating with a conventional recovery source;

downloading an uncorrupted version of said BIOS from said conventional recovery source; and

programming said uncorrupted BIOS onto said computer system's BIOS storage area.

52. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 51, wherein said conventional recovery source is a removable disk.